



# Gillespie Field Development Council



## A Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of El Cajon and County of San Diego

Airport Administration Building ♦ 1960 Joe Crosson Drive ♦ El Cajon, California 92020-1236 ♦ (619) 956-4800

Cliff Leary  
*Chairman*

Phyllis Trombi  
*Councilwoman*

Jerry Hollingsworth  
*Vice Chairman*

Bob Parker  
*Councilman*

Ramzi Murad  
*Councilman*

### DRAFT – SUBJECT TO GFDC APPROVAL November 19, 2008 MINUTES OF September 16, 2008

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>
Cliff Leary	Peter Drinkwater
Phyllis Trombi	Roger Griffiths
Bob Parker	Marc Baskel
Ramzi Murad	Sarah Solis
Barry Bardack	

\*For others present, sign-in sheet is available in the Administration Building office.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Chairman Leary called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Leary made a motion that the minutes of August 19, 2008 be approved. Ms. Trombi seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

#### 3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Leary recognized Marc Baskel and Reggie Angquico for their work on the Pacific Flyer advertisement. Mr. Leary shared ideas for promoting Gillespie: that the San Diego Air and Space Museum (SDASM) move a prominent Marine aircraft to the southwest corner of the field. Mr. Griffiths said he has discussed something similar with SDASM and is exploring a similar idea with Warbirds of the West. Ms. Trombi asked if there were any safety concerns about having historical planes on the west transient. Mr. Griffiths stated there is always a safety concern but no more concern than with anything else on the field. Mr.

Leary suggested possible monument or sentinel from the Miramar Marine Corps base. He stated Gillespie Field is named after a Marine and the aircraft could double as a commemorative to Lt. Gillespie and the Airport's importance during WWII. Mr. Leary asked the public for ideas regarding marketing of Gillespie Field. Mr. Parker asked if advertising of Gillespie's assets is focused towards private pilots. Mr. Leary spoke about the Pacific Flyer advertisement. Mr. Bardack recommended having an information board with posters, pamphlets and signage describing the benefits of Gillespie and businesses in the area. Mr. Griffiths stated future plans for that area include a small building with restrooms, a covered area with seating and an area that will outline information regarding Gillespie Field. Mr. Leary suggested we advertise available flight schools, self-service and full-service jet fuel, the deli and other facilities. Rob Dennis of El Cajon Flying Service suggested using County Television Network (CTN) to advertise the County Airport system. Mr. Drinkwater stated Airports has requested a program about the County Airports system from CTN. Mr. Dennis also suggested light pole banners like those used in Santee to place around the field, industrial offices and at the trolley stop. He suggested using them to advertise Gillespie's museums, Wings over Gillespie and the Airport. Mr. Leary stated things like the Stearman's Fly-In get little to no TV coverage and Sheriff's ASTREA and Mercy Air are very under-covered by the media. He suggested that such businesses and the jobs they provide be advertised.

#### 4. AIRPORTS DIRECTOR UPDATE

Mr. Drinkwater stated that a State Aeronautics program featuring County Airports was aired on CTN eleven times. The program explained the California State Aeronautic System, the County Airports system, economic impacts and interviews. The DVD will likely be shown at the next GFDC meeting. Mr. Drinkwater explained that CTN can be used for future Airport exposes but there is cost involved. He spoke about the new fuel station at Borrego as well as Akrofest in October and invited Gillespie pilots to fly into Borrego for the event. He stated that the event lacked turn out last year and the Airports all need more advertising. Mr. Leary suggested making copies of the DVD and sending them to the pilot's associations, antiquers and community groups. Mr. Drinkwater announced that Lou Barnes, who is largely responsible for getting Airports its grants, accepted a job with County Parks and Rec and will start on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The financial section is now under Kathleen Bute, Principal Admin Analyst from Department of Public Works Transportation Division. The next year will pose some new financial challenges as Airports has some large projects in the works that will need funding. Mr. Drinkwater talked about the demonstration by the Canadian Superscoopers at Mission Bay. They are based at Ramona Airport under a \$3M County contract for fire fighting support. The Gillespie Partners lease was expected to go to the Board of Supervisors on September 17, 2008. Conversations continue in Supervisor Jacob's office with community members and Airport staff regarding different referrals and community concerns, delegation of authority, who owns the airplanes when they're in the air versus when they're on the ground; can you limit, control or curtail the number of flight schools; all of which have been answered before. If they are legitimate aviation businesses, we

can't limit them as it violates grant assurances. Leases have to promote a fair and level playing field of public property that the FAA has deemed as Federally protected because of grant assurances; we are not in control of or have authority over aircraft while in flight; we do not have the authority to permanently close runways or change flight paths. Ms. Trombi asked if we would get a confirmation of these facts during the meeting with the Supervisor. Mr. Drinkwater responded that there is some miscommunication in the FAA but that they are sending proper representatives to the meeting. County Airports has cleared the information up as much as possible but the representatives higher up in the FAA need to clear it up to the community once and for all. Ms. Trombi requested the outcome of the meeting be brought up as an update in the next meeting. Mr. Drinkwater asked Mr. Bardack to update the Council on the ALUCP as he is on the ATAG. Mr. Bardack stated that the remaining issues are non-residential development, the amount of percentage of infill that will be allowed, and the safety zones on the approach and departure of 17-35. Staff has made recommendations that ALUCP has agreed with. Santee proposes to put in high density residential at the north end safety zone, if they go in as staff is recommending, they will have to cut down on densities or override them and take liability ramifications if problems arise. Mr. Bardack stated that he is unclear what the City of Santee is going to do as they have proved to be very unpredictable. Ms. Trombi stated that there is a strong push to move forward due to the proposal for a senior housing unit. Mr. Bardack explained it will completely change the residential situation on the east end of the Airport that was supposed to be a low density but will be a high density area if the project is pushed forward.

#### 5. AIRPORT MANAGER UPDATE

Mr. Griffiths stated that the transient ramp construction is completed and that the wash rack, 2 helipads and ramp are now open for use. The layout in front of the building has been changed to create more space between the tie downs and taxiway Delta to make room for more helicopter spaces. Mr. Griffiths stated the Snowbirds, Canada's Precision Aerobatic Team, may stay overnight at Gillespie Field on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> and that he'd coordinate their visit with Flight Service District Office. Mr. Baskel shared the Good Neighbor Report: there were 23,351 operations in August, 18% below 2007. There were 9 total noise complaints, 7 of which were local. Mr. Leary asked if any complaints had come from Sky Ranch, Mr. Baskel stated there had been none.

#### 6. OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE GILLESPIE FIELD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON MATTERS NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED

There were no matters by the public.

#### 7. RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COUNCIL FOR ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING A FUTURE GILLESPIE FIELD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Due to counter points and opposition to staff's position by pilots and FBO's, Mr. Leary proposed a discussion between the public, GFDC and Airport staff regarding aviation land lease rates. He clarified he did not want a report or presentation, but simply a platform for discussion presented by the GFDC and moderated by the Chairman during the November meeting. Mr. Bardack stated he didn't know what more Airport staff could input and there is a difference of opinion but it should be given the opportunity to be aired a little more. Ms. Trombi agreed. Mr. Leary stated the item should be titled on the Agenda as, "Aviation land lease rates – a discussion with the public, GFDC, and Airport staff." This item to be formatted on the November 2008 agenda as "discussion" by Cliff Leary. The Council moved unanimously for this discussion item.

#### 8. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Griffiths reminded the Council about some deteriorated concrete on Taxiway Charlie. He stated that Ms. Barnes was able to get about \$126,000 in FAA funding to get the Taxiway Charlie area repaved. Mr. Bardack applauded Mr. Griffith's efforts towards fixing the area.

Mr. Leary reminded the Council about a proposal regarding San Diego Air and Space Museum's (SDASM) possible development on the west side of the field. He stated that SDASM is no longer interested in developing that area or moving something to the Pacific Marshall development because they are currently looking to Brown Field. Mr. Drinkwater stated that Richard Sax of Carlsbad's Premier Jet has made some enormous financial commitments to San Diego and to SDASM for such a development. He stated that the proposal is breath-taking and that Brown has a lot of land and a bigger runway that will be able to support large air shows and special events.

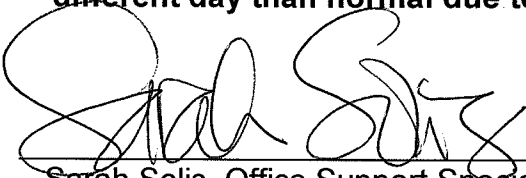
Mr. Bardack reminded the Council he had inquired about the population density and usage of the Forrester Creek buildings; the presentation by Forrester Creek illustrated 27L safety zones but not 27R safety zones. Mr. Drinkwater stated that Eric Nelson created the exhibit used for the RFP and the evaluation of the land follows the CalTrans handbook. The developer has made many adjustments. Mr. Bardack stated he didn't doubt they were using the CalTrans handbook but he wanted to ensure it was followed exactly. Mr. Drinkwater stated Mr. Nelson would bring the layout back to GFDC and give a presentation. Mr. Bardack stated another presentation was not necessary. Ms. Trombi agreed and Mr. Leary suggested Mr. Bardack act as representative and speak directly with Mr. Nelson then report back to GFDC.

#### 9. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bardack stated the City of Santee has their meetings available for download online; he suggested the County look into something similar. Ms. Solis stated she would research this topic.

Mr. Leary adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m. The next meeting of the Gillespie Field Development Council will be at 6 p.m., **Wednesday**, November 19, 2008 in City Council Chambers, 200 E. Main Street, El Cajon. **This will be held on a different day than normal due to availability of the meeting location.**

By



Sarah Solis, Office Support Specialist

10/2/08